

Africa Working Group meeting

Date: Thursday 9 September 2010,
Location: Room K15, Stockholm International Fairs
Stockholm, Sweden
Participants: see Annex 1
Minutes: Ghislaine Heylen (AWG Support Team)

Welcome and agenda setting (Mr. Reginald Tekateka, chair of AMCOW-TAC and Mr. Dick van Ginhoven, co-chair AWG)

Mr. Tekateka welcomed all the participants to the meeting. He stated that it is rather unusual that the AWG meets again in such a short time span (previous meeting in Cape Town on 26th July).

Mr. Dick van Ginhoven also welcomed all and guided the participants through the agenda.

Progress reporting over previous period (July-Sept)

• Highlights from the AWG, Dick van Ginhoven, DGIS, The Netherlands

Mr. Dick van Ginhoven used a powerpoint presentation to provide an update on the work of the AWG in his position of co-chair of the TROIKA. The title of the presentation is: EUWI-Africa Working Group, Update & Progress 2010.

He started his presentation by outlining some of the highlights from the Africa Working Group which consist of the new AWG strategy (2009- 2013), the 2010 work plan and an overview of activities.

The new strategy was set-up to provide a clarification of the roles and responsibilities and was developed in a participatory manner. The process was carried out by a Task Team, with three participatory workshops.

Concrete activities that evolved out of the new strategy and that were taken along the 2010 work plan are:

- Sanitation mapping and CRS guidance paper (Implementation of declarations)
- EU Code of Conduct study and follow-up on SWAp side event (Aid effectiveness and efficiency)
- 3 AWG meetings of which 2 in Africa as well as support to participation of CSO in the AWG (Foster ownership and multi- stake holder partnership)
- Continued and improved communications development of advocacy material (Advocacy and knowledge sharing)

Mr. van Ginhoven continued his exposé with elaborating on the two financial funds the AWG used to have; which was on the one hand the support from WFac (contract until 2010) and on the other hand the bilateral support from the acting co-chair & other EU MS. He announced that as from mid-2010 the EC-thematic budget line (about 1m €, until 2012) will be available through a UNDP trust fund.

The way forward consists of the matching & integration of the AMCOW road map with the AWG multi-annual plan and will manifest itself in the next steps:

Questions:

- Did you consider linking the SWAp L&S event to the 3 AWW in Addis Abeba (Ethiopia)?

Erma Uytewaal replied that during the Cape Town meeting (July 2010) an ad hoc working committee was formed. The idea was to organise a sub-regional SWAp Learning and Sharing event back to back with another event in view of keeping the costs limited. The ANEW-AMCOW event to review progress in implementation of existing declarations has been identified as a good opportunity to co-ordinate with. Place and dates scheduled: Mozambique during first week of November (TbC). Another option is to organise the SWAp event around the AWW-3. This option was not known when the first proposal of the L&S was discussed by the ad hoc group. It has to be noted however that the proposed SWAp event will by preference be an event for S&L between countries of one of the AMCOW- TAC subregions. Tomorrow, September 10th 2010 there is another meeting with the adhoc SWAp group, after which the outcome will be brought forward to the TROIKA.

- Suggestion from Moussa Badji with reference to a workplan on sanitation mapping: If you are presenting a decision making report they want to see a presentation on economic evidence.

Dick van Ginhoven replied that the ToR has been distributed and the contract has been given out, the new DAC coding still needs to be incorporated. So the above suggestion could result into an additional translation on social and economic return on sanitation investments. It might be a suggestion for an activity for next year and it could build on existing results.

➤ Please explain the synergies between the AWG work plan and the AMCOW Road map.

The AMCOW road map has been drawn upon the Sharm el Cheikh declarations. The multi-annual workplan of AWG (drafted in 2009) and the workplan 2010 were based on this road map. In the meantime a detailed AMCOW roadmap is being prepared and in the coming months we need to synchronize this detailed roadmap with the existing multi-annual plan, in order to make a new AWG workplan 2011. In Cape Town (July 2010) the AWG and AMCOW jointly looked at synergies between the two plans. This will result in:

- Review of AWG Governance (Autumn 2010)
- Inception plan for UNDP Trust Fund
- AWG Workplan 2011-2012
- 3rd AWG meeting Ethiopia (Nov 2010, AWW-3)

➤ About the EU-Africa Summit: the Libya summit is about the partnership between EU and Africa. We note now that water is missing from that. We will need to intervene in time. André Liebaert replied that he had expressed this three times in Cape Town to bring in this topic. Reginald Tekateka replied that this might be a nice incentive to form a political working group who prepares a political agenda. Asking for guidance in the work of the AWG.

Drafting of work plan AWG (2011-2012): presentation of new outline

- **Outcome of Cape Town discussions (Reginald Tekateka)**

Presentation made by Mr. Charles Ngangoué presented by Mr. Tekateka.

Mr. Tekateka started his presentation by emphasizing the importance of EXCO decisions that were agreed upon in Cape Town last July. He explained to the participants that AMCOW-TAC members are in the start-up phase. The AMCOW members have only met so far to prepare EXCO meetings and are still need to explore the full landscape. In the beginning of the SWWW the members met again. The next step will be to look at how the secretariat will operate. The AMCOW Secretariat is based in Nigeria and has no legal staff and is also dependent on Nigerian structures. This has serious legal implementations for getting it internationally recognised. AMCOW has become an STC (Special Technical Committee) of the African Union (AU) and is currently investigating if they can use the framework of the African Union.

Mr. Tekateka welcomed the role ANEW is playing to reach communities on the ground. Mr. Tekateka continued with explaining the Groundwater Commission which was set-up by AMCOW and is hosted by the government of Libya. The next point was about the Atlas of Africa's Water Resources. AMCOW is in the stage of finalizing the Atlas and will- where possible- include sub-regional information. The goal is to try and finalize the Atlas as much as possible for formal presentation to EXCO at its meeting in November 2010.

Questions:

➤ With reference to the MOU that CREPA has with AMCOW- How does the settlement of financial commitments work?

In this year- with AMCOW and AWG working quite closely together- we are looking at implementation of declarations. This is only possible when we have the municipalities at the tables. There was an AWG activity to get CSO on board. Local governments should be brought to the table.

Reginald Tekateka replied that AMCOW has up till now been concerned to get the institution working. Now they are looking at ways to reach all levels and will try to find out where vertical linkages are needed.

➤ Is this the best option to work at regional level? Better option would be to use the collectivités au niveau africain.

When AMCOW reaches the stage of actual implementation they will proceed with the above. There is no conflict.

➤ On CREPA and the centres of excellence: who would be the best partner for issues of management of organisations?

They are both partners of AMCOW, they try to coordinate all of these activities, without overlapping.

The European Commission is currently in the process of defining activities for centres of excellence with reference to the support to AMCOW-TAC.

➤ How is the relationship between AMCOW and the ministers of Science and Technologies? Are there any contacts with ministers of Finance and Economic Development etc..?

Reginald Tekateka replied that there is little happening with reference to that specific topic. In Africa the ministers of Finance are also in charge of economic development. No contact has been established with the ministers of Health thus far.

- **Financing framework, from EC thematic fund and others**

Ms. Anemari Ciurea presented Europe's Aid's contribution from the thematic fund to support AWG and AMCOW activities. Anemari Ciurea started by presenting the department she is working for at Europeaid: The ACP-EU Water and Energy Facilities- Direction C. She continued by explaining the projects funded from EC thematic funds 2010: the first one is EUWI – Policy Development and Implementation for Sustainable Water Management in Africa (€1,025,000; duration 36 months) and the second one is Strengthening the Institutions for Trans-boundary Water Management in Africa (€3,000,000; duration 36 months).

She updated the participants of the meeting on the **status** of the EUWI project:

- Action Fiche has been approved by the EC
- Implementer: UNDP Brussels and UNDP Water Governance Facility in Stockholm
- Contract with UNDP under preparation – **to be signed Sept. 2010**
- Implementation of the project – **starts January 2011**

She continued her exposé with clarifying the **structure** of the EUWI project:

Phase I – Inception Report developed by UNDP – 15 November 2010

- detailed description of activities (on the basis of independent consultation of UNDP with AWG, AMCOW, AMCOW TAC, EUWI, examinations of other parallel actions implemented by GTZ, JRC, etc.)
- Including the elements approved by the European Commission in the Action Fiche corresponding to the 4 areas of results:
 - Support to implementation of declarations
 - Aid effectiveness & efficiency in the WSS sector in Africa Corresponding detailed budget for the implementation of the action
 - Strengthening partnerships and stakeholder involvement between EU Commission, EU Member States and African Partners
 - Advocacy, knowledge sharing, dissemination and visibility
- Detailed budget corresponding to the detailed description of the action

Phase II – Implementation by UNDP of the Action described in the Inception Report – starting of implementation 1 January 2011

Questions:

- Could you please clarify the role of UNDP?

UNDP will develop for the AWG together with AMCOW a working plan for the next coming year that they will present to the EC. UNDP will support the AWG and AMCOW to implement. One part is to look carefully what the needed support is. How can we revitalise the political process?

- Are there any constraints at using money at country levels?

The Action Fiche has already been approved- more general support for AMCOW development. Only a general list of activities has been produced.

Action Point Anemari Ciurea to share the Action Fiche and ToR with the AWG members.

- With reference to the follow-up of Sharm el Sheikh and Transboundary WM, and in particular the meeting with GWP and the AMCOW chair. Who will be the implementor of these TWM activities?

In the EC contracting process there are several stages of proposals. In the first phase level there will be an identification fiche where a lot of organisations are mentioned. In the second phase the EC will decide on who will be implementor.

- Please explain the EUWI relationship with TWM

André Liebaert explained that the new funding has been provided by the EU parliament. The key objective is peace and security in the in Africa. One is in the identification stage to find out what needs to be done.

- Please clarify the UNDP Inception phase

The first input is the AMCOW work plan and detailed road map. Interviews will also be held to determine the objectives and activities of the new workplan The most effective ways of implementing will be looked at. This will be in support of the existing AWG.

Action Point GH to send distribution list AWG members to Anemari Ciurea. Anemari will send a copy of the identification fiche to the AWG members after the 15th of September (after approval).

- What will be the role of IRC under the new UNDP contract?

IRC has a lot of history in their support role. A review of the executed work by IRC will take place in the next coming months and options of possible collaboration will be explored, but are not assured. The importance of not losing the institutional memory of IRC is recognized by both parties and efforts will be made to maintain this knowledge.

- **Transition to UNDP hosting of AWG support**

On the inception phase and report: a draft outline of the Inception Report has been by UNDP sent to Anemari Ciurea for comments. During the inception phase, documents will be compiled and interviews with key stakeholders will be held, in Europe and if needed in Africa as well. The deadline from the EC for approval of the inception report is 15 November. UNDP plans to have the draft inception report ready well before that, including a workshop to discuss the draft report with key stakeholders.

At this stage, under the new support contract, the vitalization of AMCOW leadership is one of the key objectives. To this effect, a strong liaison with the German support is important. During the inception phase, based on the information and the interviews, an assessment will be made of the best management structure for support to the AWG and to the Chair. In this assessment a proposal will be made how to capture the experiences and institutional memory gained so far through the IRC support group. Already during this SWWW, UNDP is having interviews on a bilateral basis to start the compilation of information for the inception phase.

Group-work –in parallel- on 2 subjects

Two groups will be formed. The first one is on IWRM/TWM including climate change adaptation. The second one is on aid-effectiveness with elements of finance. This hopefully will develop into ideas for activities that the AWG can develop in the next few months.

1. Planning for IWRM/TB activities, incl climate change adaptation

- *Update from TF on IWRM/TB*
- *Identification of role of AWG*
- *Prioritisation & Planning of activities*
- *Next Steps*
- *Conclusions*

➤ *The group concluded that the 3 top activities that were proposed earlier should be taken forward: 1/ the learning review, 2/ the inventory of executed activities and the lessons learnt from the 5 supported basins*

The proposal is to combine the proposed activities and conclusions into one proposal with specific attention points. If we have a combined project we should design objectives both for political and technical levels. Secondly, it was said that the component of climate change adaption is not yet clear, let's determine later how we can link to that. Thirdly, Charles Ngangoué stressed that the African Union (with reference to TWM) said that this could play a role in peace and conflict resolvment and contribute to good governance. Fourthly, there is the importance of harmonisation on country level. We should keep our eyes open for complementarities of the AC river basins, splash- smart tailoring of activities. Also, we should ensure that a good inclusion and alignment with Splash and other EUWI or EC activities is made.

About the membership of the Task Force: this is currently very Europe biased, maybe we could look at a enlarged composition of the TF with more African members.

During the next few months, the IWRM TF will come back with a further elaboration of activities.

Reginald Tekateka asked the question with reference to climate change „how do we advocate? How do we link it?“

On the issue of the SIDA learning review: it was already endorsed as activity in the previous AWG meeting.

2. Aid Effectiveness in the EU-Africa Partnership (potential to breakdown in 2 groups: national level and global level)

The discussion in the group on the role of the AWG in improving AE was triggered by the four **main messages from the GLAAS report**:

- R1: Demonstrate greater political commitment
- R2: Target resources better
- R3: Strengthen national and sub-national systems to plan, implement and monitor
- R4: Strengthen partnerships

At the same time it was recognised that activities to be planned for 2011 should build further on the present activities and products of the AWG, namely:

- EUWI –AWG mapping study on aid flows

- CRS guidance notes
- Sanitation mapping study
- Study on the Implementation on the Code of Conduct on division of labour
- Briefing notes on the above studies
- SWAP regional learning and sharing event
- other

Activities to be undertaken by the EUWI-AWG in 2010/ Outcome on group discussion;

Improved aid effectiveness in the sector as promoted by the Paris declaration, the Accra Agenda for Action and the EC Code of Conduct implies a different way of delivering aid and therefore a new way of working for all actors , donors and recipient countries, involved.

Based on existing experiences following challenges were identified:

Capacity development: The fundamental change in management of aid and the new role of the development partners prompts the need for capacity development to ensure the right skills, knowledge and attitudes of programme staff of donor agencies (at hq and in country offices). Capacity development at the recipient country level is also very much needed to ensure that the specific country systems are ready to accommodate and respond to the new way of working.

Ideas of activities for the AWG 2011;

- Production and dissemination of briefing notes and good practises targetted at programme staff of donor agencies
- Provide training for donor programme staff
- Undertake studies and collect information to provide better insight in the challenges, bottlenecks and opportunities to improve national country systems to respond to AE challenges.

Continue political influencing:

- Aid targeting; more awareness on the challenges of fragile and donor neglected states. What are the channels for supporting the sector in these neglected countries, how are political decisions made? What are the countries in biggest need?
- Harmonisation and coordination of donors in allocation of resources at country level; Get insight in economic impact of investments in sanitation (tailored at country level). To help making the case to convince the finance ministers.

Role of local government and CSO's:

- Get better insight in the role of local government in decentralised decision taking and decentralised service delivery. Enable the discussion on the role of local government in achieving improved AE. Role of local government in implementation of international and regional declarations, role and challenges of local government in SWAps etc..
- Idem for the role of the CSO's particularly in relation to ensure more transparency and accountability in allocation and use of resources in the sector.

General conclusions:

The elements that were picked up in today's discussion and from the discussions in Cape Town will be incorporated in the preparation process for the workplan of next year and will be presented for discussion and endorsement in the AWG 3 meeting in November in Addis Abeba.

Wrap-up

Durk Adema wrapped up the session and thanked all the participants for their presence.

He kindly invited all participants to join the 3rd AWG meeting in the week of 22-27 November in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Announcements

Carl Mitchell introduced Carol Lynn MacCurdy as the new Senior Advisor of the Office of Environmental Policy of the US Department of State.

Closure at around 18.00 hrs

Annex 1: participants list

AWG Meeting

September 9th

Stockholm

	Name	Organisation	Country	E-mail
1	Adisse Amado	INTEGRATED WATER AND SANITATION PROGRAM OF THE EKHC DEVELOPMENT	Ethiopia	saraelon@yahoo.com
2	André Liebaert	European Commission	Belgium	Andre.Liebaert@ec.europa.eu
3	Andy Cotton	WEDC	UK	a.p.cotton@lboro.ac.uk
4	Anemari Ciurea	EuropeAid Co-operation Office	Belgium	Maria.VINK@ec.europa.eu
5	Antti Rautavaara	Economic Adviser (projects and programmes) Development Policy Department Ministry for Foreign Affairs	Finland	Antti.Rautavaara@formin.fi
6	Brian Baxendale	Department of International Development	UK	b-baxendale@dfid.gov.uk
7	Carl Mitchell	US Department of State	US	CMitchell@usaid.gov
8	Carol Lynn McCurdy	US Department of State	US	maccurdycl@state.gov
9	Charles Ngangoué	AMCOW Secretariat	Nigeria	charlesngangoue@amcow.net
10	Dick van Ginhoven	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	The Netherlands	dc-van.ginhoven@minbuza.nl
11	Durk Adema	DGIS	The Netherlands	dg.adema@minbuza.nl
12	Durk Adema	DGIS		dg.adema@minbuza.nl
13	Emilie Göransson	SIDA	Sweden	Emilie.Goransson@sida.se
14	Erma Uytewaal	IRC	The Netherlands	uytewaal@irc.nl
15	Felix Adegnika	Programme Manager- Municipal Development Partnership	Benin	fadegnika@pdm-net.org
16	Ghislaine Heylen	IRC	The Netherlands	heylen@irc.nl
17	Hakan Tropp	SIWI	Sweden	hakan.tropp@siwi.org
18	Joakim Harlin	UNDP		joakim.harlin@undp.org
19	Johan Holmberg	FWG	Sweden	johan.holmberg@ncgsw.se
20	Lesha Witmer	Women for Water	The Netherlands	wima@planet.nl
21	Maria Vink	European Commission	Belgium	maria.vink@ec.europa.eu
22	Mary Rusimbi	Women for Water- African representative	Tanzania	'mary.rusimbi@gmail.com'

23	Maurice Bernard	Chef de division, eau et assainissement, Agence Française de Développement	France	BERNARDM@afd.fr
24	Moussa Badji	<i>Environment & Sustainable Development</i>	Belgium	Moussa.Badji@diplobel.fed.be
25	Moustafa Mahmoud	African Union- Policy Officer, Environment and Natural Resources		m_moustafa_nwrc@yahoo.com
26	Olushola Olayide	African Union- Senior Policy Officer, Environment and Natural Resources		OlusholaO@africa-union.org
27	Olushola Sodeko	African Union		olushola_sodeko@yahoo.com
28	Paul van Koppen	IRC	The Netherlands	koppen@irc.nl
29	Simon Thuo	GWP Eastern Africa		sthuo@nilebasin.org
30	Stephen Young	DFID	UK	s-young@dfid.gov.uk
31	Sue Yardley	Tearfund	UK	Sue.Yardley@tearfund.org
32	Thomas Zipper	Hydrophil	Austria	thomas.zipper@hydrophil.au
33	Timamy Khalil	African Union- Head Environment and Natural Resources		mhktimamy@yahoo.co.uk
34	Veronique Verdeil	French Ministry of Foreign Affairs	France	veronique.verdeil@diplomatic.gouv.fr